

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



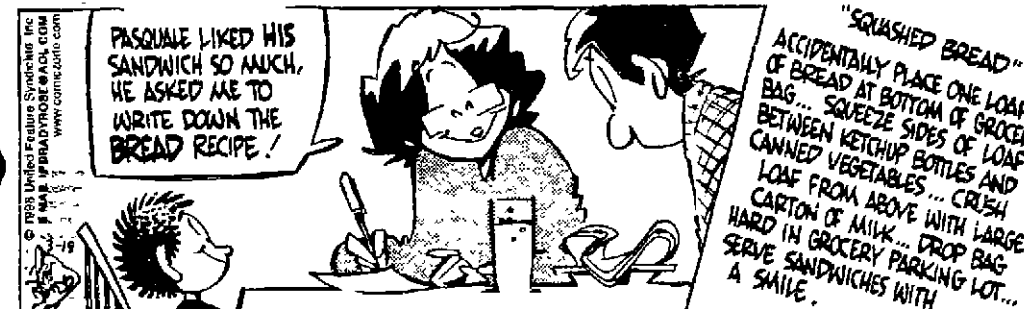
9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



HOROSCOPE

For Friday, March 20, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) However exciting your week-end plans are, you still need to pay attention to what must be done.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're satisfied with the progress you're making. That doesn't mean you can slack off.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Advice a friend gives you is right on the mark for your situation. Be sure to heed this.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Someone close to you really has your temper going. At the same time, that doesn't give you license to take it out on everyone else around you.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You're uncharacteristically quiet and contemplative. Use this to tap into your inner resources.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) You're able to finally get rid of some of that debt. Just be sure you don't allow it to pile up again!

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You're being too fanciful, trusting and naive. Although this is natural for you, it often leads to hurt feelings on your part when you're disappointed.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) There's a power play going on at work, but you don't need to join the fray.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You're all wound up and need to find a way to relax. If you don't take care of yourself, your health could suffer in some way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) It's fine to look back. However, don't become mired in the past.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You're in a fun, playful mood and won't really get much done at work. Later you happily turn your attention to socializing.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) If you're wondering why loved ones are avoiding you, perhaps it's that famous temper.

RALPH



WORD SLEUTH

On the cover of Sports Illustrated in 1997

O X U R O L J G D A X V S P N
K I F C A S X V S Q O L J H E
C A X V H T A R D P N L J H F
D B R E N T E R I A Y V X V T
R D R O F F I G P G P E O M K
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D B Z G L X N I S W A U U T T
R S D O O W N Q O N N S O L I
J U I G F N Y K L U A F K Y M
P D C A A Y W L L E W E R P S
X W V M T S G R P N N U D W E

Wednesday's unlisted clue: NEVER

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Thursday's unlisted clue hint: TIGER

Bettis Gwynn Pudge
Dean Smith K. Faulk Renteria
E. Smith L. Bird S. Young
Grifford Manning Sampras

Sprewell
Venus
W. Dunn

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3/19

For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

"East's weak two-bid and West's opening lead told me East had the location of any one of the three, and I make the game."

What plan did South overlook? South took dummy's heart ace and led a low club to his queen. The finesse lost to West's king, and West returned his club jack, again sticking the lead in dummy.

This time South cashed dummy's trump ace and led another trump to put East on play. East could lead a third club, and when the diamond finesse lost, South failed in four attempts, going one down. (All three kings were wrong, and East had a third club.) South notes he can lose a trump and a diamond but not two club losers. He must have a second diamond winner quickly to discard one of his clubs. The best approach is to cash dummy's trump ace at trick two. When no king appears, South cashes dummy's diamond ace and leads another diamond. East's king taking South's jack, East switches to clubs, but time is on South's side. He tries his queen, covered by the king and ace, and leads dummy's diamond queen. East ruffs with his high trump, but South discards a club. This limits South's losses to one trump and a trick in each minor, giving South 10 tricks and game.

NORTH
♠ A J 8 4
♥ A
♦ A Q 9 7 5
♣ A 7 3

EAST
♠ K 2
♥ K 10 9 8 6 3
♦ K J
♣ 9 8 4

SOUTH
♠ Q 10 8 7 6 3
♥ 7
♦ J 8
♣ Q 6 2

Vulnerable Both
Dealer East

The bidding

East 2♥ South 3♥ North 4♠
Pass Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead Heart queen

East 2♥ South 3♥ North 4♠
Pass Pass Pass Pass

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Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone. 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute).

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N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0205

ACROSS

1 Pitcher Reynolds of the 40's-50's Yankees